Fourth Review Conference
of the Parties to the Treaty
on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

NPT/CONF.IV/MC.III/WP.5
29 August 1990

Original: ENGLISH

Geneva
20 August - 14 September 1990

SUGGESTED ELEMENTS FOR THE FINAL DOCUMENT OF MAIN COMMITTEE III

Working paper submitted by the United States of America

ASSURANCES OF SUPPLY

The Conference recognizes that the NPT provides a sound framework for peaceful nuclear co-operation between its Parties and reaffirms that nothing in the Treaty shall be interpreted as affecting the inalienable right of any Party to the Treaty to research, develop, and use the atom for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with Articles I and II.

The Conference reaffirms the undertaking by all Parties to the Treaty, in accordance with Article IV and preambular paragraphs 6 and 7, to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the right of all Parties to the Treaty to participate in such exchange.

NUCLEAR SAFETY AND RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION

The Conference urges that nuclear co-operation under the NPT give increased attention to nuclear safety and radiological protection. The Conference recommends continued work on international guidelines for operational and design safety. It notes the important role of national policy and infrastructure in assuring the safe design and operation of peaceful nuclear activities. The Conference also notes that international co-operation is important in assisting individual nations to establish the necessary policies and regulatory arrangements to support the safe use of the atom. The Conference commends the efforts of the IAEA in this respect and supports the maintenance of a continued professional approach to its programme on nuclear safety and radiological protection.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND THE IAEA

The Conference notes the contributions by many countries to the IAEA voluntary Technical Co-operation Fund and through other extrabudgetary means. It was also noted that the IAEA secretariat successfully managed the rapidly growing Technical Co-operation resources (a growth of over 50 per cent since 1985), while being restricted to essentially zero real-growth in the regular budget. The Conference records with appreciation that projects supported from these programmes covered a wide spectrum of applications, related both to power and non-power uses of nuclear energy.

The Conference commends the IAEA, following a recommendation of the First Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, in establishing a mechanism to permit the channelling of extrabudgetary funds to projects additional to those financed from the IAEA Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund. The Conference notes that this channel has been used to make additional resources available for a wide variety of projects in developing States Party to the Treaty. States in a position to do so are encouraged to use this mechanism to support appropriate projects in developing countries Parties to the Treaty.

The Conference notes the significant level of bilateral co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and urges that States in a position to do so should continue their co-operation in these fields. At the same time, the Conference urges continued preferential treatment to non-nuclear-weapon States Party to the Treaty in gaining access to information and technologies for peaceful applications of nuclear energy.

PROMOTION AND FINANCING OF NUCLEAR POWER

The Conference commends the study by a Senior Expert Group sponsored by the IAEA entitled "Promotion and Financing of Nuclear Power Programmes in Developing Countries". This report represents a balanced and thoughtful examination of the existing constraints on nuclear power development in developing countries, the requirements to be met for successful introduction of a nuclear power programme, and mechanisms to assist developing countries in overcoming the identified constraints. The Committee notes that the IAEA plays an important role in assisting developing States in the development of nuclear power and encourages the IAEA to continue to include the four identified components (Energy and Nuclear Power Planning, Public Acceptance, Project Preparation and Implementation, and Nuclear Power Financing) in its programme of work.

UNCPICPUNE

The Conference took note of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy held in 1987. It was noted that the Conference was highly successful in bringing together outstanding scientists and engineers from over one hundred countries who documented decades of achievements in the peaceful applications of the atom. The Conference recommends that the Conference's technical reports issued by the United Nations in a seven volume series (A/Conf.108/TR.1-7) be utilized by Governments in planning national programmes for development, use and safety of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.